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III. Remarks

Claim 13 is objected to for informalities. Claims 1-13 of the present application are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 3,865,287, to Peterson.

A. Informalities

Claims 12 and 13 are cancelled by this Amendment. Accordingly, the rejection for informalities is moot.

B. 35 U.S.C. §102(b)

Claims 1-13 of the present application are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 3,865,287, to Peterson. Claim 1 is an independent claim from which claims 2-5 depend, 6 is an independent claim from which claims 7-10 depend, claim 11 is an independent claim, and claim 12 is an independent claim from which claim 13 depends. Claims 2, 11, 12, and 13 are hereby canceled. It is respectfully submitted that Peterson fails to anticipate claims 1, and 3-10, as amended, of the present application.

Peterson discloses a garment hanger is a U-shaped body 10 consisting of a pair of arms 12 and a connection portion 14, and having a supporting hook 18 for attaching the hanger to a bar or the like. In operation, a link member 20 is attached to both arms 12 for deforming the connection portion 14 by drawing the arms 12 closer to each other, thereby closing terminal portions of the arms 12 including padded jaws 16.

However, Peterson fails to anticipate the amended claims. Claim 1 of the

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present application, as amended, requires "a body defining at least one accessory receiving slot," and a "clamping member displaceable relative to the receiving slot to move between a first position permitting a storage item to be received between the body and clamping member and a second position for retaining a storage item received between the body and the clamping member." Peterson includes a body 10 defining a receiving slot between the arms 12, but includes no <u>clamping member displaceable relative to the receiving slot defined by the body</u> and movable to a position for retaining a storage item <u>between the body and the clamping member</u>. Peterson includes the jaw pads which may be considered clamping members, but the jaw pads are secured to the body and, therefore, are not displaceable relative to the receiving slot defined by the body. Accordingly, Peterson cannot anticipate claim 1 and its dependents.

Peterson also fails to anticipate independent claim 6, which requires a body and "a plurality of clamping members having a first position permitting a storage item to be received between the body and each clamping member, and being displaceable relative to the body to retain a storage item received between the body and the clamping member." Peterson does not disclose <u>a plurality of clamping members displaceable relative to the body</u> to retain a storage item received <u>between the body and the clamping member</u>. Peterson discloses a mechanism including various components that one could consider a plurality of clamping members, but these components to not permit a storage item to be received between any of components and the body. Alternatively, the jaw pads could be considered clamping members, but these are not

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displaceable relative to the body. Accordingly, Peterson cannot anticipate claim 6, or

its dependents.

IV.   Conclusion

It is believed that the rejections presented in the Office Action of June 28, 2004,

are hereby overcome. Accordingly, it is requested that the rejections and objections be

withdrawn, the terminal disclaimer entered, and a notice of allowance be issued.

Respectfully submitted,

FITCH, EVEN, TABIN & FLANNERY

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